2014 Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Recreational Advisory Status

During 2014, the Kentucky Division of Water (KDOW) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) identified the presence of potentially harmful algal blooms based on cell counts (the number of bluegreen algae cells in a milliliter of water) at Barren River Lake, Beaver Lake, Campbellsville City Reservoir, Carpenters Lake, General Butler State Park Lake, Green River Lake, Greenbrier Creek Reservoir, Guist Creek Lake, Lake Reba, Long Run Lake, McNeely Lake, Nolin Lake, Reformatory Lake, Rough River Lake, Taylorsville Lake, and Willisburg Lake.

In 2015, KDOW began working with other agencies in the state to develop protocols for sampling and issuing HABs-related advisories based on microcystin and cylindrospermopsin toxin concentrations in the water. Cyanotoxin concentrations are a more reliable indicator of potential health concerns than relying on cell counts alone, as the presence of blue-green algae does not necessarily indicate that toxins are present also.

For the 2015 recreation season, KDOW and USACE revisited the lakes that had HAB recreational advisories in 2014 and collected samples for cyanotoxin testing during June-August of 2015. If the 2014 HAB advisory for a particular lake was already lifted, the lake was revisited to confirm that cyanotoxin levels were low. If the 2014 HAB advisory remained on a lake, two sets of toxin results were collected at least a week apart. If both sets of results were below a level of concern, the advisory was lifted. As of mid-August 2015, all advisories on Kentucky lakes have been lifted. The table below provides information on the advisory status and the latest set of sample results for each lake.

2014 HAB Lake Recreational Advisory Status

| | | | Most Recent Sample Results | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Lake/Reservoir | Advisory Posted | Advisory Removed | Date | Total Microcystins (ppb) | Cylindrospermopsin (ppb) |
| Barren River Lake | June 2014 | July 2015 | 7/30/2015 | ND | 0.07 |
| Green River Lake | June 2014 | July 2015 | 8/19/2015 | ND | 0.06 |
| Greenbrier Creek Reservoir | June 2014 | October 2014 | 8/18/2015 | 0.67 | 0.05 |
| Nolin Reservoir | June 2014 | July 2015 | 7/26/2015 | ND | ND |
| Rough River Lake | June 2014 | May 2015 | 8/19/2015 | ND | ND |
| Taylorsville Lake | June 2014 | May 2015 | 7/29/2015 | ND | ND |
| Beaver Lake | August 2014 | October 2014 | 7/29/2015 | ND | ND |
| Campbellsville City Reservoir | August 2014 | August 2015 | 8/6/2015 | ND | ND |
| Carpenters Lake | August 2014 | August 2015 | 8/5/2015 | 0.42 | 0.06 |
| General Butler State Park Lake | August 2014 | July 2015 | 7/8/2015 | 0.66 | ND |
| Guist Creek Lake | August 2014 | October 2014 | 8/6/2015 | ND | 0.06 |
| Long Run Lake | August 2014 | October 2014 | 7/8/2015 | ND | ND |
| McNeely Lake | August 2014 | October 2014 | 7/8/2015 | 0.37 | ND |
| Reformatory Lake | August 2014 | October 2014 | 7/8/2015 | ND | 0.07 |
| Willisburg Lake | August 2014 | July 2015 | 7/15/2015 | ND | ND |
| Lake Reba | October 2014 | July 2015 | 8/13/2015 | 1.67 | 0.12 |

ND=Not detected—the toxin concentration is so low (or not present) that it cannot be measured during analysis ppb=parts per billion, equivalent to micrograms per liter